

Application No. 10/803,306
Amendment Dated September 7, 2006
Reply to Office Action of March 8, 2006

REMARKS

In the Office Action dated March 8, 2006, claims 1-24 were examined with the result that all claims were rejected. In response, Applicant herein submits a Declaration by Glenn C. Calhoun, one of the named inventors, and the following remarks. In view of the Calhoun Declaration and the following comments, reconsideration of this application is requested.

In the Office Action, the Examiner rejected claims 1-24 under 35 U.S.C. §103(e) as being anticipated by Bunyard et al U.S. Published Application No. 2004/0058600 A1. Examiner refers to the abstract, paragraphs 15-29 and example 1 of the Bunyard et al. publication.

In response, Applicant submits a Declaration from the inventor Glenn C. Calhoun which swears behind the filing date of the Bunyard et al patent application. The Declaration specifically states that the invention was conceived and reduced to practice prior to September 20, 2002 which is the filing date of the Bunyard et al patent application. In support thereof, the Calhoun Declaration has attached thereto an exhibit comprising pages from his laboratory notebook containing data and a description of the method for preparing triggerable, water dispersible cationic polymers, as claimed. Thus, the Declaration states that the inventors conceived and reduced to practice the claimed invention prior to September 20, 2002 and includes sufficient documentation showing such reduction of practice prior to September 20, 2002. As a result, the Bunyard et al published patent application can no longer be considered a reference against the claimed invention by the Examiner.

In view of the Calhoun Declaration submitted herewith, Applicants believe the §103(e) rejection made by the Examiner should now be withdrawn. Accordingly, Applicants believe claims 1-24 are now all allowable.

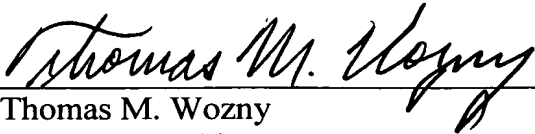
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An effort has been made to place this application in condition for allowance and such action is earnestly requested.

Respectfully submitted,

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